

St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge is one of over 500 national wildlife refuges. The primary objective of the refuge is to provide habitat for conservation and protection of all species of wildlife. The harvest of surplus animals is one tool used to maintain wildlife populations at a level compatible with habitat.

The regulations listed below supplement the general regulations which govern hunting on wildlife refuges as set forth in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations. Hunting will be in accordance with applicable state regulations. For all hunts except small game, weapon restrictions are in accordance with State regulations.

All game must be checked out at designated check stations.
Public hunting is permitted on approximately 32,000
acres as shown on this map.

All hunters must possess identification, a Florida hunting license, and a valid refuge hunt permit for the hunt in which they are participating. State Management Area stamps are not required. A state archery stamp will be required for all archery hunts. A turkey stamp is required to hunt turkey. State and Federal waterfowl stamps are required to hunt waterfowl.

Access into the refuge hunt area will be through designated access points (see map). Vehicular access shown on map may vary according to weather and ground conditions. Vehicles are restricted to established roads. Boat access not permitted except to Piney Island for waterfowl hunting.

Pre-hunt scouting (with permit) on foot is allowed anytime during daylight hours. The hunt area will be open to vehicles, weather permitting, two days before each quota hunt. During pre-hunt scouting, weapons are not permitted on your person or in your vehicle.

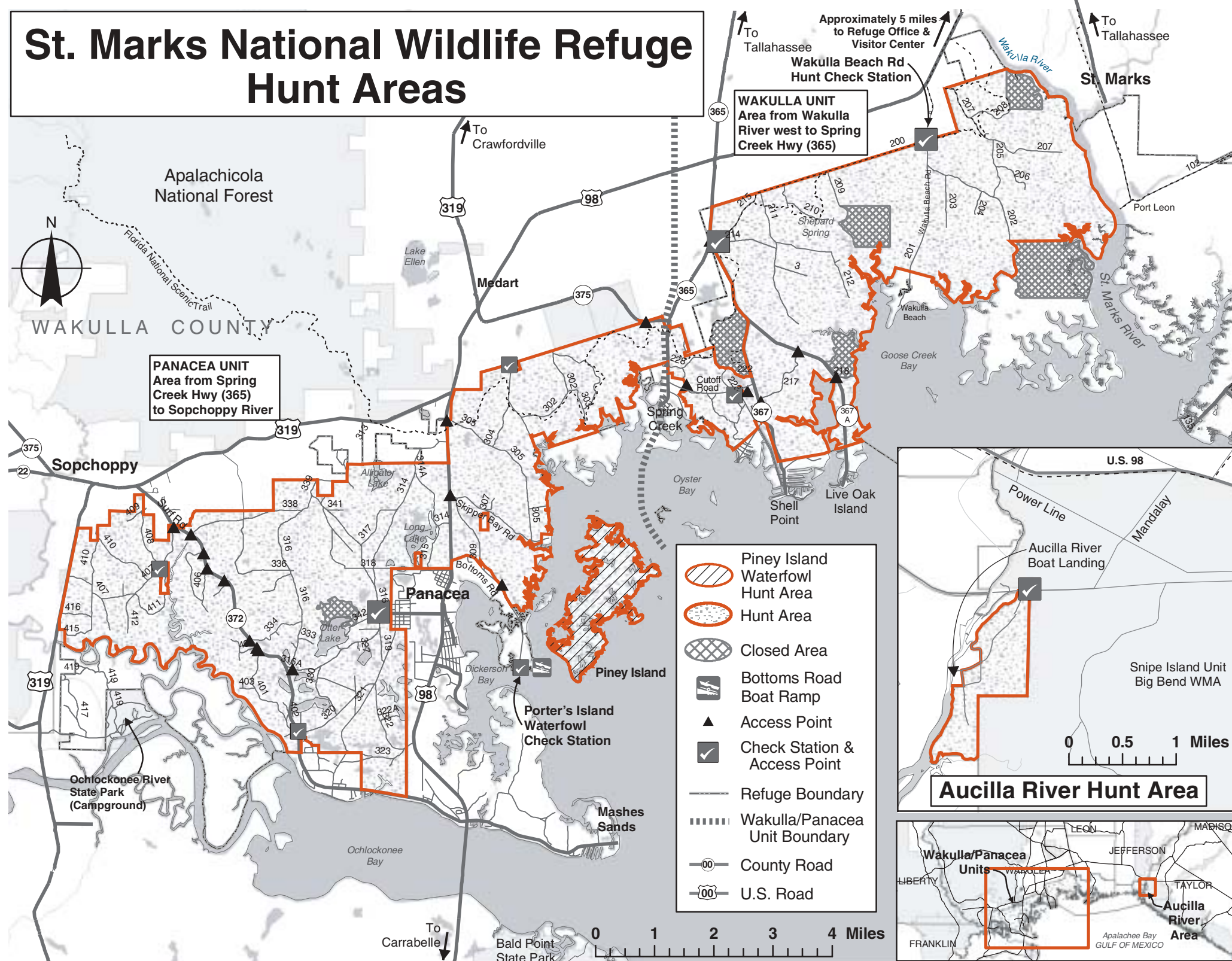
Portions of the hunt area may be temporarily closed due to wildlife management practices such as prescribed burns.

All hunters participating in the small game/hog hunt and December quota gun hunts must wear a minimum of 500 square inches of fluorescent orange-colored material above the waistline. All other hunters are encouraged to wear orange for their safety.

Stand hours from 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1 1/2 hours after sunrise are observed during big game hunts as a hunter courtesy.

During all hunts for hogs, there are no restrictions on the size or number taken.

Youth hunters (younger than 16 years) must possess a valid refuge permit and be supervised by an adult 21



years of age or older and must remain within sight and normal voice contact of the adult. For big game hunts, the adult may supervise only one youth. For small game hunts, the adult may supervise no more than two youths.

Hunt companions regardless of age, must also possess a valid refuge hunt permit to be in the hunt area during the hunt.

All firearms must be unloaded during vehicular transport.

Tree stands left in hunt area at hunter’s own risk.

Bag limits stated on each hunt permit. Read them carefully!

Prohibited Activities

Target practice is prohibited.

Woodgathering, camping, littering, and fires are prohibited. Dogs are prohibited except for Piney Island waterfowl hunt. The refuge is open to daylight use only.

The use or possession of alcoholic beverages in refuge hunting areas is prohibited.

The placing of or hunting over bait is prohibited.

No guns permitted on refuge during the archery hunt.

It is unlawful to insert a nail, spike or other metal object into any tree or to hunt from any tree in which a nail, spike or other metal object has been inserted.

Hunting from any paved or unpaved refuge road is prohibited.

Use of flagging tape prohibited. Painting or defacing plants or trees prohibited.

ATV's are prohibited on refuge hunts.

Hunting within 1000 feet of any residence or public area prohibited.

Cleaning of game within 1000 feet of any developed public recreation area is prohibited.

Quota Hunts Permits

Complete separate application and mail to address on back of application. Applications must be received by **4:00 pm, Monday, August 9, 2004**. Only successful hunters will be notified. Permits are **not** transferable.

All hunters successfully drawn will receive a notification card. They must return that card with a \$15.00 hunt permit fee by **4:00 pm Friday, October 15, 2004** to receive their hunt permit. A photo ID and \$5 is required to replace lost permits.

Archery—200 permits / Nov. 2-6, 2004, Tues-Sat
Species: Deer and hogs, either sex. Bearded turkeys only.
Area: Panacea Unit only.

Archery—200 permits / Nov. 9-13, 2004, Tues-Sat
Species: deer and hogs, either sex. Bearded turkeys only.
Area: Wakulla Unit only.

General Gun—175 permits / Dec. 11-13, 2004, Sat-Mon
Species: antlerless deer; bucks after being issued a tag; and hogs, either sex. Bearded turkeys only.
Area: Wakulla Unit only.

General Gun—80 permits / Dec. 17-19, 2004, Fri-Sun
Species: antlerless deer; bucks after being issued a tag; and hogs, either sex. Bearded turkeys only.
Area: Panacea Unit only.

Mobility-Impaired Person Gun Hunt—30 permits Dec. 11-13, 2004, Sat-Mon
Species: antlerless deer; bucks after being issued a tag; and hogs, either sex. Bearded turkeys only.
Area: section of Panacea Unit west of Highway 372.
Criteria: hunters must be (1) permanently confined to a wheelchair, (2) require the use of mechanical aids (crutches and walkers) to walk, or (3) have single leg amputations.

Primitive Weapons—120 permits Jan. 14-16, 2005 Fri-Sun
Species: antlerless deer; bucks after being issued a tag; and hogs, either sex. Bearded turkeys only.
Area: Wakulla Unit only.
Weapons: Muzzleloader and archery equipment per state regulations. No crossbows permitted.

Spring Gobbler—150 permits Apr. 12-16, 2005, Tues-Sat
Species: Bearded turkeys only.
Area: Both Panacea and Wakulla Units.
Weapons must be unloaded and dismantled or encased after 1:00 pm while in refuge hunt area.

Non-quota Hunt Permits

Small Game and Hogs / Dec. 26, 2004-Jan. 9, 2005
Species: gray squirrels, rabbits, raccoons, and hogs.
Area: Both Panacea and Wakulla Units and new Aucilla River Area.
Weapons: restricted to .22 calibre rimfire firearms, shotguns with non-toxic shot or muzzleloaders. Hunters may use shotgun slugs, buckshot or archery equipment to take feral hogs. The use or possession of other weapons is prohibited. All firearms must be unloaded for transport in vehicles and muzzleloaders must be uncapped. Hunters must wear 500 square inches of flourescent orange above the waistline.
Permits: on front of this brochure.

Piney Island Waterfowl Hunt / State season
Species: ducks and coots.
Area: Piney Island only.
Weapons: non-toxic shot only. Hunting from blinds left in area for more than one day is prohibited. Remove blinds daily. Use of island plants for blinds prohibited.
Permits: available from office or website.

St. Marks
National Wildlife Refuge
P.O. Box 68
St. Marks, FL 32355
850/925 6121
<http://www.saintmarks.fws.gov>

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1 800/344 WILD
<http://southeast.fws.gov>

June 2004



St. Marks

National Wildlife Refuge

Hunting Regulations

2004-2005

December 26 - January 9 Small Game and Hog Hunt Permit

This leaflet must be signed to be valid for the December 26 - January 9 small game and hog hunt permit. It must be carried by the hunter during the hunts. Companions must also have this permit while in hunt area. Gates not open for pre-hunt scouting by vehicles.

Name _____
Please print

I have read and understand the refuge hunting regulations.

Signature _____
(Permits are not transferable)